

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY M/MS:RGMAYS,JR.:DHG

APPROVED BY M/MS:RGMAYS,JR.

SCI - MR. PARDEE

EUR/EX - MR. RATTRAY

NEA/EX - MR. WILLIAMSON

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TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

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TAGS: TSPA,IN,SP

SUBJECT: OPRED - NASA REQUEST TO ESTABLISH SITE
REPRESENTATIVE POSITIONS

1. LETTER FROM NASA HEADQUARTERS REQUESTS AUTHORIZATION
TO ESTABLISH TWO NEW POSITIONS OVERSEAS, ONE IN AHMEDABAD
INDIA AND ONE IN MADRID, SPAIN. EXTRACTS FROM LETTER
FOLLOW#

2. QUOTE. THESE NEW POSITIONS ARE SATELLITE INSTRUCTIONAL
TELEVISION EXPERIMENT (SITE) REPRESENTATIVES TO PROVIDE
DETAILED TECHNICAL COORDINATION AND INTERFACE BETWEEN
THE INDIA SPACE RESEARCH ORGANIZATION (ISRO) AND SPAIN'S
"INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE TECNICA AEROSPACIAL" (INTA)
AND THE NASA TEAM IN CONDUCTING THE NASA/ISRO INSTRUCTIONAL
TELEVISION EXPERIMENT...THIS REQUIREMENT RESULTS FROM THE
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED ON SEPTEMBER 18, 1969, BY
INDIA AND THE U.S. IN WHICH THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED TO CON-
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DUCT A SATELLITE INSTRUCTIONAL TELEVISION EXPERI-

MENT (SITE) USING THE ATS-6 SATELLITE. ABOUT ONE YEAR AFTER ITS LAUNCH, THE SPACECRAFT WILL BE MOVED FROM ITS INITIAL LOCATION OF 94 DEGREES WEST LONGITUDE TO 35 DEGREES EAST LONGITUDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE EXPERIMENT. AT THE NEW LOCATION, THE SPACECRAFT WILL REMAIN UNDER THE CONTROL OF NASA. TO IMPLEMENT THE MAINTENANCE OF

CONTROL DURING THE PERIOD OF SITE EXPERIMENT, A MOBILE GROUND TERMINAL, FULLY DEDICATED TO THE ATS-6 OPERATION, WILL BE CO-LOCATED WITH THE SPACE TRACKING AND DATA NETWORK (STDN) UNIFIED S-BAND FACILITY AT ROBLEDON DE CHAVELA (FRESNEDILLAS), NEAR MADRID, SPAIN. THE ATS-6 TERMINAL WILL BE OPERATED BY UNITED STATES CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL AND LOGISTICALLY SUPPORTED BY SPAIN'S (INTA). IN ADDITION THE AGREEMENT PROVIDES THAT FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INDIA-BASED GROUND SYSTEM AND THE TV PROGRAM CONTENT WILL BE INDIA'S. THE EXPERIMENT WILL BE FOR ONE YEAR STARTING IN MID-1975.

3. QUOTE. TO INSURE EFFECTIVE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE ATS-6 PROJECT, STDN PERSONNEL AND SPAIN (INTA), WE PLAN TO STATION A NASA REPRESENTATIVE IN MADRID, SPAIN, DURING THE EXPERIMENT AND HAVE TENTATIVELY SELECTED MR. GILBERT BULLOCK, A SYSTEMS ENGINEER WITH THE ATS PROJECT OFFICE AT GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER (GSFC) FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT. WE PROPOSE THAT THE POSITION BE MANNED NO EARLIER THAN JANUARY 1975 AT WHICH TIME WE WILL HAVE BETTER INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF THE GROUND TERMINAL DELIVERY AND OF THE EXPERIMENT PREPARATIONS IN INDIA. OUR REPRESENTATIVE'S DUTIES IN MADRID WILL BE TO EVALUATE THE SPACECRAFT PERFORMANCE ON A DAILY BASIS TO ASSURE THAT IT IS FUNCTIONING IN A PROPER MANNER TO CONDUCT THE SITE EXPERIMENT. HE WILL COORDINATE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER COUNTRIES THE CONDUCT OF OTHER SPACECRAFT EXPERIMENTS SUCH AS THE VERY HIGH RESOLUTION RADIOMETER, MILLIMETER WAVE AND S-BAND EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION (ETV) FOR WHICH INDIA AS WELL AS OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST WHILE THE SPACECRAFT IS AT 35 DEGREES EAST LONGITUDE. HE WILL ALSO COORDINATE OPERATIONS WITH THE ATS-6 OPERATIONAL CONTROL CENTER (ATSOCC) AND UNCLASSIFIED

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WITH THE INDIA STATION AT AHMEDABAD. IN THE EVENT OF TECHNICAL PROBLEMS DURING THE OPERATION OF THE EXPERIMENT, HE WILL ASSIST IN THE RESOLUTION BY DETERMINING AND RELAYING THE ANOMALIES, IF ANY, TO ATSOCC.

4. QUOTE. MR. BULLOCK, DUE TO HIS CONSIDERABLE ASSOCIATION WITH THE ATS SPACECRAFT, GROUND TERMINALS AND SPACECRAFT OPERATIONS AND HIS FAMILIARITY WITH BOTH THE

MADRID STATION PERSONNEL AND THE CUSTOMS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SPANISH, WOULD BE AN ASSET IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE EXPERIMENT. TO PROVIDE COORDINATION BETWEEN NASA AND ISRO FOR THE SITE, WE PLAN TO STATION A NASA REPRESENTATIVE IN AHMEDABAD, INDIA, DURING THE EXPERIMENT AND HAVE SELECTED MR. HOWARD L. GALLOWAY WHO IS ALSO A SYSTEMS ENGINEER IN THE ATS PROJECT OFFICE AT GSFC FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT. WE PROPOSE THAT THE POSITION BE MANNED

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT IS EXPECTED TO BE APPROXIMATELY 18 MONTHS THROUGH COMPLETION OF THE SITE EXPERIMENT.

5. QUOTE. IN INDIA THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE EXPERIMENT IS WITH THE SPACE APPLICATION CENTER (SAC). THE SPACE APPLICATION CENTER, WITH ALL ITS DIVISIONS WORKING ON SITE AS WELL AS OTHER PROPOSED EXPERIMENTS WITH ATS-6, IS LOCATED IN AHMEDABAD. SITEOCC WILL HAVE A DIRECT COMMUNICATION LINK WITH ATS OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER (ATSOCC) AT GSFC. THE NASA ATS RANGE AND RANGE-RATE EQUIPMENT IS ALSO INSTALLED AT THE AHMEDABAD GROUND STATION TO TAKE RANGING DATA TO SUPPORT STATION-KEEPING. THE NASA REPRESENTATIVE'S DUTY STATION WILL BE AT THE SITE GROUND STATION.

6. QUOTE. OUR REPRESENTATIVE'S DUTIES IN INDIA WILL BE SPECIFICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE SPACECRAFT OPERATION. PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF THE SITE, HE WILL KEEP NASA INFORMED OF THE PROGRESS/PROBLEMS TO ENABLE NASA TO ASSESS THE READINESS OF THE GROUND SYSTEM IN TERMS OF HARDWARE, SOFTWARE, AND OPERATIONS. ONCE THE EXPERIMENT STARTS, HE WILL COORDINATE THE ISRO/NASA INTERFACES WITH ATSOCC AND THE HYBRID TERMINAL AT MADRID FOR THE

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SUCCESSFUL CONDUCT OF THE EXPERIMENT. HE WILL ALSO COORDINATE WITH THE MADRID HYBRID TERMINAL AND ATSOCC FOR OTHER EXPERIMENTS SUCH AS VERY HIGH RESOLUTION RADIO-METER (VHRR), MILLIMETER WAVE AND S-BANK EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION (ETV). IN CASE OF TECHNICAL PROBLEMS DURING THE EXPERIMENT, HE WILL HELP RESOLVE THESE BY DETERMINING AND RELAYING THE GROUND SYSTEM ANOMALIES, IF ANY, TO ATSOCC OR THE MADRID HYBRID TERMINAL.

7. QUOTE. MR. GALLOWAY IS WELL KNOWN TO INDIA SITE PERSONNEL HAVING BEEN INVOLVED IN COOPERATIVE SOUNDING ROCKET PROJECTS. HIS ASSIGNMENT HAS BEEN CONCURRED IN BY THE ISRO OFFICIALS AND HAS BEEN INFORMALLY ENDORSED BY THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO INDIA. WE ARE REQUESTING THAT THIS POSITION BE ATTACHED TO THE

EMBASSY. ISRO ALREADY HAS THEIR REPRESENTATIVE STATIONED AT GSFC IN A SIMILAR CAPACITY. END QUOTE.

8. ACTION REQUESTED. COMMENTS BY COM CONCERNING NASA PROPOSAL, INCLUDING IMPACT IF ANY ON MISSION'S ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT CAPABILITY. KISSINGER

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